

DERRICK OPERATOR

DEFINITION: Under general supervision, performs duties of moderate difficulty involving the set up and dismantling of large, bulky water well drilling equipment; performs related work as assigned.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS: This list is ILLUSTRATIVE ONLY and is not a comprehensive listing of all functions and tasks performed by incumbents of this class.

TASKS:

Serves as a member of a water well drilling crew, with primary responsibility in assembling and dismantling drilling equipment using numerous hand tools; maintains smooth operation of drilling equipment assembled; assures proper mud/water viscosity throughout operation of equipment by checking mud consistency intermittently; operates mud pumps to circulate mud or water through drill pipes to cool drill bits and to flush out drill cuttings; mixes drilling mud to proper consistency using portable power mixer; operates hoist to lower/raise drilling instruments in wells that have been bored; strings cable through pulleys and blocks; weighs clay samples, checks line cable for proper operation.

Maintains mileage and timesheet logs; assists in construction of other water development projects including water lines, irrigation, water systems, dams and storage tanks; sandblasts, welds and paints according to specifications established by trades; installs completed windmill assembly; maintains supplies, equipment and work area; instructs other workers in the use and care of derrick equipment/tools; adheres to work safety regulations; attends staff meetings.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND OTHER CHARACTERISTICS:

Knowledge of federal, state and Navajo Nation rules and regulations related to the drilling of water wells.
Knowledge of geological and soil issues related to drilling.
Knowledge of occupational safety and health rules, regulations and guidelines.
Knowledge of water and soil sampling.
Knowledge of the operation, maintenance and monitoring of drilling equipment.
Skill in transporting and operating a variety of heavy equipment.
Skill in utilizing hand and power tools related to construction and maintenance work.
Skill in following verbal and written technical instructions, geological specifications and diagrams.
Skill in following safety practices and procedures related to construction work sites.
Skill in establishing and maintaining effective working relationships.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS AND WORK ENVIRONMENT: Work requires extended periods of exposure to weather extremes, chemicals and fumes; work also requires lifting (100 pounds), climbing, stooping, bending and working in confined spaces or at heights over 60 feet; and driving vehicles in all types of weather and road conditions.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: A high school diploma or GED; and two (2) years experience in the operation and maintenance of water well drilling and equipment; or an equivalent combination of education, training and experience which provides the capabilities to perform the described duties.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: Must possess a valid state driver's license.

Depending upon the needs of the Nation, some incumbents of the class may be required to demonstrate fluency in both the Navajo and English languages as a condition of employment.